



Save Energy in Your Home As Easy as 123 Look for Gas Savings

This winter, the price of natural gas across the country is very high, due to increasing demand and tight supplies, made worse by the devastating hurricane damage to America's natural gas production facilities in the Gulf of Mexico.

PG&E is committed to helping consumers manage these rising energy costs this winter. As part of this effort, PG&E has created the **10/20 Winter Gas Savings Program**. Under the new program, residential and small business customers who reduce their natural gas usage by at least 10 percent from January to March, 2006—as compared to the same three months in 2005—will receive a 20 percent rebate on their PG&E natural gas charges on their April or May bills. Enrollment is automatic—simply start conserving when you receive your December bill and don't stop until your April bill arrives.

Here are some tips and tools to help you lower your energy usage and reach the 10/20 goal.



No Cost Energy Saving Tips

- When using your furnace, health permitting, set your heating thermostat 5-10 degrees below where you typically set it, and further at night or when you're away for more than four hours. Save up to **10-15%** of gas used for heating.
- Clean or replace furnace filters monthly during the heating season.
- Open drapes on sunny days to help warm the rooms.
- Do only full loads when using the clothes washer and dryer. Wash in cold water.
- Lower the water heater temperature to 120 degrees and save up to **5%** in heating costs. For a dishwasher, check the manufacturer's manual for the water setting; many have internal heating elements that allow you to set the water heater to a lower temperature. Use the energy-saver, air-dry cycle.
- Do not preheat your oven. Cook complete meals of several dishes simultaneously in the oven. Use the microwave when possible.



- Install an ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat to prevent unnecessary heating or cooling.
- Install energy-saving showerheads and faucet aerators in your home. Save **3-5%** in heating costs.
- Fix defective plumbing or dripping faucets. Water faucet drips cost energy and water loss up to 212 gallons a month.
- Wrap your older model water heater with a water heater blanket, especially if it's in an unheated area.



Investments You Can Make to Save Energy

- Replace appliances 13 years or older with new ENERGY STAR® models.
- Insulate ceilings to R-30 standards if your attic is less than R-11. Save up to **25%** on heating costs. When changing out old windows, buy new high-performance ones. Look for the NFRC label and choose a product with U-factor of 0.40 or less and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient of 0.40 or less and Visible Light Transmittance of 0.60 or higher.
- Replace water heaters if 13 years or older. Buy a gas water heater with Energy Factor (EF) of .62 or higher. Buy an electric water heater with Energy Factor of .93 or higher.



Low Cost Home Improvement Actions

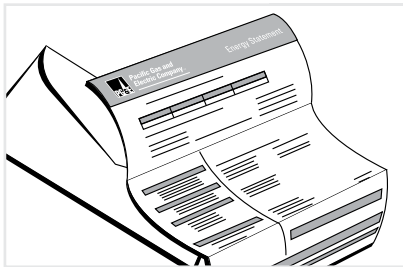
- Caulk windows, doors, pipes anywhere air leaks in and out. Save up to **10%** in heating costs. Use weather stripping around windows, doors and pipes. To seal ducts, use mastic sealants not cloth duct tape.



For more information on how you can reduce energy use, the 10/20 program and qualifying for an energy rebate, call Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Smarter Energy Line at **1.800.933.9555** or visit **www.pge.com**.



**Pacific Gas and
Electric Company®**



Need Help Paying Your Bill?

- **Payment Arrangements**—When possible, PG&E may make payment arrangements with a customer. These payment arrangements may include making an upfront “good faith” payment with additional payments due before the next bill, or dividing an outstanding balance over several months and adding the result to future bills. Make payment arrangements by calling **1.800.743.5000**.
 - **Balance Payment Plan**—This plan is designed for customers who want to eliminate the big swings in their monthly payments during extreme-weather months. PG&E charges BPP customers the same average amount, calculated using their annual energy costs over the prior 12 months. If the average energy charge changes drastically, PG&E will change the payment amount but not more than three times a year. Enroll in the Balance Payment Plan at **www.pge.com** or by calling **1.800.743.5000**.
 - **CARE**—California Alternate Rates for Energy—Income-qualified households can save 20% off utility bills. Participants are also exempt from electric rate increases.

The new guidelines allow participants to qualify for the program if their household income levels are below 200% of the established federal poverty level. The gross income levels are:
- | Household Size | Income Per Year |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1-2 | \$27,700 |
| 3 | \$32,500 |
| 4 | \$39,200 |
| 5 | \$45,900 |
| 6 | \$52,600 |
| Each Additional | \$ 6,700 |
- **REACH**—Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help—is an emergency annual energy assistance program sponsored by Pacific Gas and Electric Company and administered by The Salvation Army for low-income customers who experience a sudden uncontrollable or unplanned change in their financial ability to sustain energy service. Call **1.800.933.9677**.
 - **Medical Baseline**—Provides additional gas and electricity at the lowest (baseline) price for those with special heating or cooling needs. Also, qualifying customers who are already on the program can request additional baseline allotments. Call **1.800.743.5000**.
 - **LIHEAP**—Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program—Low-income households may qualify for financial assistance with energy bills and weatherization projects through local government offices and nonprofit organizations. For more information call **1.866.675.6623** or visit the State of California’s LIHEAP website at: **www.csd.ca.gov**
 - **Energy Partners**—Is PG&E’s free weatherization program. Utility-approved contractors work with eligible low-income customers to make their homes more energy efficient. By making a few improvements—adding weather-stripping around doors, insulating attics and repairing furnaces—low-income customers can achieve significant savings and increase the comfort of their home. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Smarter Energy Line at **1.800.933.9555**.

Call **1.866.PGE.CARE (866.743.2273)** or visit **www.pge.com/care**.



For more information call us at **1.800.743.5000**
Para más información en español llámenos al
1.800.660.6789

Để biết thêm chi tiết bằng tiếng Việt xin gọi
1.800.298.8438

如需中文資料，請電**1.800.893.9555**